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DCI/IC 74-1138

4 September 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Work Plan -- OMB Proposal for Product Improvement

25X1

1. At a meeting on 30 August, [redacted] identified several leads that require investigation as part of the development of a proposal to put before D/DCI/IC and DCI. This memorandum presents a work plan for that investigation.

2. We agree that it is first necessary to identify major projects and initiatives now in the intelligence community bearing on product improvement and the analyst of the future, and to become familiar with their purposes and status currently. We note OMB concern that there are numerous smaller-scale piecemeal efforts, and that a major focal point for the community is needed.

3. Attachment 1 lists ongoing activities with which we must become familiar. This will provide us a good understanding of where the community is today, and we will have a frame of reference for drafting an overall proposal.

25X1

[redacted]
Acting Chairman
IHC

Attachment

Distribution:

25X1

- 1 - Dr. Clarke
- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - IC Registry ✓
- 3 - IHC Ofc

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Attachment 1

4 September 1974

SUBJECT: Work Plan -- OMB Proposal for Product Improvement

The following ongoing activities should be checked in order to provide a common frame of reference for an appraisal of the current status of the intelligence community's efforts toward an improved future analyst environment and the improvement of intelligence products.

I. CIA

A. CIA Comptroller's Office

We need to ascertain the status of agency component proposals to the CIA Comptroller. We need to know whether some of these should be supported by us, as part of a larger scheme, or contrary-wise, why we would not be in favor of some of them.

Action:

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1. [] has asked [] MPRRD, to prepare a summary for our review.

B. OCI

Our group should be briefed on the effort in OCI to offer new methodologies to analysts and to prepare them for evolving roles in the future.

Action:

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25X1

1. [] has arranged briefing in [] office on Thursday, 5 September 1974, at 1530-1630 hours. Briefers are [], OCI, who are the editors of OCI Notes on Methodology.

C. ORD

ORD is a focal point in CIA for contracting for support to analysts, and is involved with ICS and ARPA in establishing a new analytical support center.

Action:

25X1

1. [] is arranging time for briefing from Jim Hirsch, Director ORD, who has agreed. Briefing will be at Ames Building.

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I. CIA (continued)

D. CRS - Project SAFE

25X1 SAFE (Support for Analyst File Environment) is a long-range development project being run by [] CRS, with participation by several CIA components at the branch level. It concerns the future capability of an analyst to receive mail and create files at a work station that has a computer terminal with keyboard and cathode ray tube (CRT) screen.

Action:

E. Office of Communications - CIA Operations Center

CIA/OC is developing a computerized display system to bring communication traffic from the Signal Center to the Operations Center. We will need details on this effort.

Action:

1. [] will receive a briefing on this in connection with OC briefing to IBM/WMCCS people on 5 September 1974, and will report further.

F. Office of Training - Information Science Center

25X1 The training program of the OTR/ISC is expanding, and warrants further future development in order to help address a principal problem, which is the introduction of the analyst to automation. [] of OMB noted that improved training was a legitimate subject for this proposal.

Action:

25X1 1. [] PRD, can arrange briefing by [] head of the ISC staff.

G. Office of Basic & Geographic Intelligence (OBGI)

25X1 Computerized graphics capabilities are an important on-coming technique to improve the presentation of intelligence products. Capabilities of CIA and DIA, who are supporting work at [] are interesting and important.

Action:

25X1 [] can arrange briefing by [] OBGI. OJCS should also attend and explain its capabilities in this regard.

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II. ARPA

A. General

ARPA has an ambitious detailed schedule of projects that are being proposed for its FY-76 budget. RAND has assisted ARPA in developing this program. The projects extend over a time frame of several years.

ARPA may seek DCI advice and support in validation of its proposals.

Action:

25X1

1. [redacted] (OCI) are in contact with Licklider (ARPA/Info. Proc. Technology Office). Follow-up discussions are necessary.

B. ARPA/CIA/ICS Analytical Support Center

Center has been agreed to by sponsors, but not yet operational. RFP is being responded to by several contractors, and their proposals will be evaluated this month. For our study, it is necessary to become familiar with the work proposals being made by contractors.

Action:

1. ICS representative on the RFP evaluation panel should be tasked to report to us.

25X1 C. ARPA - [redacted] Indications Project

25X1 A prototype analyst station is operating in the NMCC. It is supported by a contract effort with [redacted]

Action:

25X1 D. ARPA - [redacted] Corporation

ARPA is funding a project entitled Advanced Computer Based Aids to Intelligence Analysis. It is focussed on the I&W area, but has much broader potential. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] are also involved. This is an important ongoing development that is highly relevant to our investigations.

Action:

25X1

[redacted]

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II. ARPA (continued)

E. ARPA - Net

The ARPA network connects numerous research centers (government, educational, private) throughout the U.S. It is an unclassified net. The net has been the vehicle through which much advanced telecommunications technology has been developed and tested. A general awareness of this activity is useful background for our planning.

Action:

- 25X1 1. An ARPA briefing can be arranged by either [] It should not be done until late in this schedule, because other briefings will help lay a technical foundation for this one.

III. Intelligence Community Staff

A. Conferenced Text Editing (Project CONTEXT)

- 25X1 An initial test of a prototype system for using CRTs in a network to conduct conferences at which textual materials can be presented and edited is planned for this fall. [] (PRD) is directing this effort, supported by [], and NSA will also participate. The first test (3-4 months) is to develop conferencing procedures.

Action:

- 25X1 1. [] can provide briefing if desired.

B. R&D Council

The future work program of the R&D Council should be identified in order to ascertain whether there are any points of tangency between it and our consideration of the OMB proposal.

Action:

- 25X1 1. Request [] to brief us.

- 25X1 C. [] should be consulted when our plans are somewhat further along. His advice will be important, and his validation to Mr. Colby of whatever we propose would be most helpful.

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IV. ASD(I)

A. COINS

ASD(I), with the COINS Project Manager at NSA, are planning hardware and communication system improvements for COINS. The current status of these developments is pertinent to the OMB proposal.

Action:

25X1

1. [] can arrange COINS briefing.

B. Defense Intelligence Information Systems, Computer Internetting.

25X1 A number of DoD intelligence projects have grown up separately:
e.g., COINS, ASSIST, OSIS, etc. ASD(I), supported by [] has been
25X1 developing a plan for internetting these systems. The status of
these plans is pertinent to the OMB proposal. Furthermore, []
is aware of the OMB project, and should not be excluded from its
planning.

Action:

- 25X1

1. [] can arrange briefing by ASD(I) representative.

V. NSA

A. NSA - National SIGINT Operations Center (NSOC)

The operation of the NSOC and the data flow of SIGINT materials from world-wide sources to the NSOC is a major I&W system that should be understood as part of the background needed to formulate the OMB proposal.

Action:

1. NSOC briefing can be arranged via []
IHC Support Staff.

VI. DIA

A. Upgrade of National Military Intelligence Center (NMIC)

DIA, advised by PRC, has underway a large scale upgrading of its center, which is co-located with the NMCC. Their plans call for developing and installing analyst work stations that have sophisticated computer display and communication capabilities. We will need a briefing on the current status of these plans.

Action:

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1. This can be arranged by []
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VI. DIA (continued)

B. PACER System

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PACER is an analyst work station that uses CRTs to support Imagery photo interpreters and to report changes into a master data base. PACER is operational at SAC. There is talk of it being used by DIA in connection with an oncoming Imagery system. It was developed with the help of the []

Action:

25X1

1. A briefing can be arranged by [] via IHC.

VII. Army

A. Project ASSIST

25X1

ASSIST is an Army effort, assisted by [] to develop an analyst work station to draw data from remote data bases and to display it to the analyst using CRTs. This is a carefully designed project that is fairly well along. It is relevant to our problem. Because of its effective direction by Colonel Pat Ulmen, Army IHHS Program Element Manager, as well as its function, it should be briefed to this group.

Action:

25X1

1. [] can arrange as requested; Colonel Ulmen is the Army representative on IHC.

VIII. External Organizations

The following is a list of some of the more important external sources of assistance. We may not be able to utilize them in the short available time before 1 October 1974, but they warrant identification for future reference.

25X1

A. [] - Artificial Intelligence Projects

25X1

[] under contract to ARPA, has much to offer by way of expertise in the formulation of a project to respond to the OMB proposal.

25X1

B. [] - Augmentation Research Center

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[] has done major work that relates to the OMB proposal.

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VIII. External Organizations (continued)

- 25X1 C. []
- 25X125X1 At [] instruction, [] and I are
arranging for [] to be available for consulting services.
- 25X1 D. []
- 25X1 [] is directing contractual work for
Norm Solat, ASD(I), re computer internetting in DoD. This work
needs to be extended to the entire community.

E. Others

Note that the above listing is limited and selective. There
are numerous other potential sources of external contractor
expertise.

IX. Drug Enforcement Agency - Department of Justice

- 25X1 [] ex-CIA, is in charge of the program to automate
25X1 DEA's intelligence activities. [] is extremely knowledgeable
on intelligence matters as well as on computer technology. He
25X1 has given a briefing to []
et al. on his plans for an automated analyst station that he is
developing for DEA. It appears to have considerable relevance to
our OMB proposal, and accordingly, a continuing dialog is anticipated.

Action:

- 25X1 1. [] (PRD) can serve as a focal point to
25X1 arrange further discussions with [].

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